

## **Lane's Dance Academy Safe Touch Policy**

Teaching dance is a physical activity and appropriate physical contact between students and teachers in class is essential to training.

Teachers can make physical contact with a student to illustrate a concept or to adjust a student's alignment (especially with younger students).

We recognise that such physical contact is a potentially complex area and we also fully recognise our responsibilities for safeguarding students and teachers and for protecting their welfare.

The following principles and procedures are in place to fulfil our obligations:

### **Safe Touch Policy**

Contact by the teacher is made with awareness to the needs of each individual/to assist the student in correcting placement.

All teachers will treat any physical contact with due sensitivity and care and with due regard for the wishes of the student.

Contact will not involve force or the use of any instrument.

Teachers will be mindful of location and avoid situations where they are isolated with a student – all classes should be held in studios and performance areas with windows.

Students should be encouraged to discuss any worries with any member of staff. Both students and teachers should feel free to report any concerns to the safeguarding lead.

### **Changing room policy for Showtime**

A licenced chaperone will be with the students in the changing rooms for children up to the age of 18.

We encourage children to dress themselves where possible depending on their age.

Licensed chaperones will assist the students with basic changing requirements such as zips, and buttons as and where needed.

Licensed chaperones can assist younger students with further changing requirements at the student's request.

Changing areas will always be communal and with other students of the same gender.

## **Toilet Policy Dance Classes & Shows**

We are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all students and staff/volunteers associated with us. Our staff will support your child's toileting needs and allow them to use the bathroom when needed; however, we cannot assist with intimate care.

Please read the below carefully and if your child cannot manage with this level of support, please do not leave them unattended at a class and speak to Principal Victoria Lane in the first instance.

### **Dance Class Toilet Policy**

Mini Movers aged 3-5 in dance class must be always accompanied by their parent/guardian during this class and if they need to go to the toilet during the class.

Dancers aged 5 and upwards moving into Mini Stars dance class and beyond must be fully toilet trained and able to go to the toilet independently. The dance teacher will not accompany them to the toilet as they will be teaching the dance class. We encourage parents to ask if their child needs the toilet prior to the class start time. If the child needs to be accompanied by an adult, we would need them to be in a parent-accompanied class until they are confident to do so.

### **Show toilet policy where your child is chaperoned and not with a parent/guardian.**

1. If your child is five years old or under, at their request, a staff member will accompany them to the toilet during events where a parent or carer is unable to be present.
2. Our staff will not enter individual cubicles or the sink area, they will stand in the main doorway with their foot propping the door open (for under 5's).
3. Our staff will encourage very young children (under 5's) NOT to lock the cubicle door.